(c) whether Government and the private sector still iritend to cut job; and

(d) if so, the reasons and justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE) : (a) to (d) Even though globalisation does have short run effects on some sectors of the economy, but the overall impact should be seen in the opportunities created through expanded markets and the competitive forces unleashed to generate efficiency in domestic production. Globalisation is also expected to induce a more labour-intensive pattern of production, which would help employment growth.

As per the latest round of surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the unemployment rate on Current Daily Status (CDS) basis increased from 6 per cent of the labour force in 1993-94 (50th Round) to 7.32 per cent in 1999-2000 (55th Round). The estimated number of persons employed along with the growth rate of employment per annum is as under:-

Employed persons (million)			Annual growth rate (%)	
1983	1993-94	1999-00	1983-94	1994-2000
302.75	374.45	397.00	2.04	0.98

Employment in sectors such as trade, construction, financial services, transport, storage and communication has grown faster than the average rate of growth of employment during 1993-94 to 1999-2000, reflecting a structural transformation in the nature of the job market with jobs increasingly being generated in the non-government sector.

Committee to address fiscal problems of States

656. SHRIMATIVANGA GEETHA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered Committee has been set up to address

the fiscal problems of States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the problems of mounting debt burden of the State Governments and the problem of shortfall in devolution of Central Taxes to States would be considered by the Committee and if not. the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the reaction of the State Governments to the formation of the proposed Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increase in NPAs of Banks

657. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite aggressive recovery methods adopted by banks, NPAs are on the rise:

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite tough measures taken by Government NPAs have shot up by 5.75 per cent during the fiscal ending March, 2002; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) to (c) According to the Reserve Bank of India, gross Non-performing Assets (NPAs) of all scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March, 2002 increased to Rs.68,074 crores (provisional) registering an increase of 6.56°$_0$ over the gross NPAs of Rs.63,883 crores as at the end of March, 2001. However, the gross NPAs of public sector banks have registered a decline of 2.14% over the same period and stood at Rs.53.600 crores (provisional)